

JOHNSTONE HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL AGM

MON 13TH MAY 2019

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Welcome to this year's AGM. Firstly, I'd like to thank all the parent members and staff for their continued support of Johnstone High School Parent Council. The 2018/19 session has been another busy and productive year for the Parent Council, continuing its close involvement with school life in Johnstone High. The Parent Council have met once a term to discuss issues raised by parent members and the wider forum, whilst the school's senior management typically update, inform and discuss school life with parent members. Over this school session we have welcomed three new parent members to the Council from our waiting list, as places naturally became available.

School Year 2018/2019

As a Parent Council we have been delighted to support the school in several ways:

School Grounds Improvement Project

- The Parent Council's main focus this session has been to progress our grounds improvement project, to enhance the outdoor experience for our pupils. Using the funding awarded to the Parent Council in 2017/18, together with monies raised at fundraising events, an outdoor classroom, seven large tables, numerous benches and two large planters have been crafted and recently installed by Glasgow Wood Recycling. The outdoor classroom provides a new learning space for pupils, whilst offering shelter and a social seating area for use at break and lunchtimes.
- Repairs and painting to the existing pergola and school office exterior wall have brightened and revitalised the space.
- The garden area has also been cleared and tidied, with new matting and bark laid. This greatly improves the aesthetics of the area and we should see an injection of colour here through some new planting, planned by pupils this term.
- A special thanks to MacTaggart & Mickel, Community Pay Back Team and Renfrewshire Council Amenity Services who have all contributed and kindly donated to the project.
- The Parent Council are delighted that they have been able to improve the school grounds for pupils and hope they will enjoy the space for many years to come.

Parent Council Fundraising Event

- The Christmas Craft Fayre held on the 28th November is now a fixture and highlight in the Parent Council calendar. Despite managing to choose the most

awful, stormy night to hold our Craft Fayre it was busy with parents, staff, pupils and community friends enjoying some festive shopping from a wide variety of fabulous craft stalls. The number of stalls has grown year on year and it is particularly welcomed to have staff departments booking stalls involving their pupils.

- Thank you to all the parents and school community for all their generous tombola and raffle donations and their support of the event. A fantastic profit of £1,172 was raised.

Careers Fayre

- The Parent Council were pleased to offer their support to the careers event held in the school on the 24th January 2019, by sourcing employer contributors and potential contacts for similar events in the future. This event focussed on training schemes and workplace apprenticeships.

Donations/Match Funding

- The Parent Council have supported The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme by donating £200 to buy additional equipment for pupils' expeditions.
- A £500 donation was also made in February to Mrs Hollywood for school funds from proceeds of the Christmas Craft Fayre.
- Employer match funding of £250 was received from The Royal Bank of Scotland. Thank you to Jacqueline Tavendale.

Issues Discussed

The Parent Council have highlighted and discussed many issues over the course of the session. These topics include:

- Staffing and resources
- Behaviour policy/whole school approach
- Senior phase timetable/option forms
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Presentations at meetings

- At our September meeting Mr Menzies (DHT) presented on S4 Raising Attainment & Wider Achievement, discussing a new 'Mental Health' SQA award and providing a forum to gauge achievement across subjects and identify areas requiring additional support.

- Lauren Cullen (Social Subjects) also presented an update on the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at this meeting. There is a high demand from pupils wishing to participate in the Bronze award. Two additional members of staff are expected to be fully qualified in May to lead future expeditions which will alleviate past reliance on input from Youth Services and grow the provision within the school.
- At our February Maggie Payne presented on the Place2Be Counselling Service providing an overview of the service.
- Leigh Cole (DHT) also presented on attainment at this meeting, summarising the S4-S6 prelim results.

In summary, the Parent Council's key 2018/19 milestone has been the realisation of the school grounds improvement project. After two years in the making, and many meetings with suppliers and contractors, the improvements to the grounds have been well worth the wait. Special thanks to all involved, in particular staff member Mick Fulton who has helped drive the project forward.

Thank you to all my fellow Parent Council members and office bearers, Jean and Gillian, Secretary and Treasurer respectively who have all devoted their time, enthusiasm and commitment to support the school.

Finally, thank you to all the Senior Management Team and school staff who have continued to support the Parent Council and have worked tirelessly throughout the school year. We look forward to working with and supporting our school again in the next school session.

Diane Spence
Chairperson, Johnstone High School